CARLTON CLUB.

ANCIENT LAWS AND INSTITUTES (IRELAND).

RETURN to an Order of the Honourable The House of Commons, dated 15 March 1864;—*for*,

COPY "of the COMMISSION for the PUBLICATION of the ANCIENT LAWS and INSTITUTES of *Ireland*:"

"And, RETURN of the SUMS granted by PARLIAMENT for the EXPENSES of the COMMISSION to the 31st day of December 1863, showing the Amounts paid under the Commission; to whom and for what Services; with a STATEMENT of the Progress made in the Collection, Translation, and Printing of the Work to the same Date."

— 1. —

COPY of the COMMISSION for the PUBLICATION of the ANCIENT LAWS and INSTITUTES of *Ireland*.

By the Lords Justices General and General Governors of Ireland.

E. Blakeney, L. J.

WHEREAS it is deemed expedient for the promotion of historical knowledge, and otherwise, that a complete collection of the Ancient Laws of Ireland should be published, and that in order thereto a selection should be made of documents and writings containing the said Laws, and the same should be transcribed and translated under the direction and superintendence of competent persons:

We the Lords Justices General and General Governors of Ireland do hereby constitute and appoint the Right Honourable Francis Blackburne, Lord High Chancellor of Ireland; the Right Honourable William Earl of Rosse; the Right Honourable Edwin Richard Wyndham, Earl of Dunraven and Mountrath; the Right Honourable Thomas Lord Monteagle of Brandon; the Right Honourable James Lord Talbot de Malahide; the Right Honourable David Richard Pigot, Lord Chief Baron of Her Majesty's Court of Exchequer; the Right Honourable Joseph Napier, Her Majesty's Attorney General for Ireland; the Reverend Thomas Romney Robinson, Doctor of Divinity; the Reverend James Henthorne Todd, Doctor of Divinity; the Reverend Charles Graves, Doctor of Divinity; George Petrie, Doctor of Laws; and Thomas Aiskew Larcom, Major in Her Majesty's Army, to be Commissioners to direct, superintend, and carry into effect the transcription and translation of the Ancient Laws of Ireland, and the preparation of the same for publication; and we hereby authorize the said Commissioners, or any three or more of them, of whom one of the following persons, that is to say, the said Earl of Rosse, Earl of Dunraven and Mountrath, Lord Talbot de Malahide, Thomas Romney Robinson, James Henthorne Todd, Charles Graves, George Petrie, and Thomas Aiskew Larcom shall be one, to select such documents and writings containing the said Ancient Laws as they shall deem it necessary to transcribe, translate, and publish, and from time to time to employ fit and proper persons to transcribe and translate the same, and generally to do all lawful acts and things whatsoever which shall be requisite for the purposes aforesaid.

Given at Her Majesty's Castle of Dublin, this 11th day of November 1852.

By their Excellencies' Command.

John Wynne.

Printed image digitised by the University of Southampton Library Digitisation Unit

— 2. —

RETURN of the SUMS granted by PARLIAMENT for the EXPENSES of the COMMISSION for the PUBLICATION of the ANCIENT LAWS and INSTITUTES of *Ireland*, to the 31st day of December 1863.

	£.
Year 1853	900
„ 1854	900
„ 1855	900
„ 1856	900
„ 1857	1,300
„ 1858	900
„ 1859	900
„ 1860	900
„ 1863	1,000
	£. 8,600

— 3. —

RETURN showing the AMOUNTS paid under the COMMISSION for the PUBLICATION of the ANCIENT LAWS and INSTITUTES of *Ireland*, to whom, and for what Services, to the 31st December 1863.

—	1853.	1854.	1855.	1856.	1857.	1858.	1859.	1860.	1861.	1862.	1863.
	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
Dr. O'Donovan and Mr. Curry, for translating and transcribing	425 5 –	450 15 –	657 12 4	457 10 –	421 10 –	478 10 –	458 17 4	534 15 –	339 – –	231 3 –	—
Dr. O'Donovan, Irish Editor	–	–	– –	–	–	–	–	–	–	105 – –	—
Dr. Hancock, English Editor	–	–	– –	–	–	–	–	–	–	150 – –	106 13 6
Mr. French, Clerk	100 – –	99 – –	150 5 –	100 – –	25 – –	100 – –	100 – –	78 5 3	50 16 –	—	—
Mr. Busteed, Clerk	–	–	– –	–	–	–	–	–	25 – –	100 – –	100 – –
Housekeeper,— Coals, Candles, and other Miscellaneous Expenses	73 7 8	93 – 5½	227 9 5½	37 3 2	38 16 11¼	43 10 1½	122 4 10½	28 19 3	24 18 4	20 12 –	47 5 –
£.	598 12 8	651 15 5½	1,035 6 9½	594 13 2	483 6 11¼	622 – 1½	681 2 2½	641 19 6	439 14 4	806 15 –	253 18 6

MEM.:—Dr. O'Donovan and Mr. Curry were paid at the rate of 15 *s.* a day, giving six hours of work daily at the Office of the Commissioners in Trinity College. When they were employed in England, they received, in addition, an allowance of 10 *s.* a day for their expenses. Their travelling expenses were also paid.

The above system of remuneration applies to every item in the account, except the single charge of 105 *l.* for remuneration of Dr. O'Donovan as editor. The services which he rendered in that capacity were performed at extra hours.

Mr. French, as clerk, assisted in various ways, making indexes, copying documents, assisting in the work of enastatic printing, keeping accounts, &c.

Mr. Busteed, when acting as clerk, gave assistance to the editors, making abstracts, indexes, transcripts, &c.

Printed image digitised by the University of Southampton Library Digitisation Unit

— 4. —

STATEMENT of the Progress made in the Collection, Translation, and Printing of the BREHON LAWS, to the 31st of December 1863.

ALL the law tracts in the Irish language, existing in the libraries of London, Dublin, and Oxford, have been copied by Dr. John O'Donovan and Mr. Eugene Curry. The total number of large quarto pages of transcript is as follows:—

By Dr. O'Donovan - - - - - - - - -	2,236
By Mr. Curry - - - - - - - - - -	2,906
TOTAL - - -	5,142

Of this transcript, twenty copies have been made, by the anastatic process, available for the purpose of deposit in public libraries, for the construction of indexes and glossaries, and for the use of editors.

All the Irish text, with the exception of a few short and unimportant tracts, has been translated. The total number of pages of translation executed is as follows:—

By Dr. O'Donovan - - - - - - - - -	4,383
By Mr. Curry - - - - - - - - - -	3,434
TOTAL - - -	7,817

In order that the autograph translation might be preserved, a duplicate copy of a great portion of it has been provided for the use of the editors.

A glossary of important and obscure words occurring in the laws has been formed. It extends to 1,028 folio pages.

To facilitate the collation of the text, a paragraph index has been formed, exhibiting, in alphabetical order, the headings of all the several paragraphs of the laws. It extends to 590 folio pages.

The first volume of the Senchus Mor, a code of laws believed to have been compiled in the fifth century, has been printed. The editors are at present engaged in the preparation of an Introduction and Index; and the Commissioners have reason to believe that the volume will be completed and published in the course of a few weeks.

More detailed information respecting the arrangements made by the Commissioners for the execution of the work, with explanations of the difficulties which they have had to encounter, will be found in the four Reports drawn up by them for the information of the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland. Of these, the first and second have been printed by an Order of the Honourable The House of Commons, dated the 12th of August 1859. The third and fourth, bearing date respectively the 15th January 1861, and the 1st March 1864, are now in the press.

Charles Graves, D.D.,
Secretary to the Commission.

5 April 1864.

Printed image digitised by the University of Southampton Library Digitisation Unit

ANCIENT LAWS AND INSTITUTES (IRELAND).

COPY of the Commission for the Publication of the Ancient Laws and Institutes of *Ireland*, and, Return of the Sums granted by Parliament for the Expenses of the Commission to 31st December 1853, shewing the Amounts paid under the Commission, to whom and for what Services, with a Statement of the Progress made in the Collection, Translation, and Printing of the Work to the same Date

(*Mr. George.*)

Ordered, by The House of Commons *to be Printed*, 19 *April* 1854.

Under 1 *oz.*

Printed image digitised by the University of Southampton Library Digitisation Unit